

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 09734 311229Z  
ACTION H-02

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E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: CASC (BLOOM, RABBI PAUL)  
SUBJECT: CONSTITUENT TRAVEL: VISIT OF RABBI PAUL BLOOM

REF: CAIRO 8537

1. IN ADDITION TO BRIEFINGS AT EMBASSY (REFTEL), AT HIS URGING WE ARRANGED FOR RABBI BLOOM TO CALL AT FOREIGN MINISTRY MARCH 29 ON DIRECTOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEPARTMENT AMRE MOUSSA. POLCOUNS ACCOMPANIED AT MOUSSA'S REQUEST.

2. RABBI BLOOM TOLD MOUSSA OF HIS GREAT ADMIRATION FOR PRESIDENT SADAT'S PEACE INITIATIVE AND THAT ONE OF THE CHANGES IT HAD BROUGHT ABOUT IN AMERICA WAS THAT PEOPLE LIKE HIMSELF, WHO HAVE LONG BEEN ACTIVE IN SPEECH MAKING AND AS STUDENTS OF MIDDLE EAST, NOW ARE COMING TO VISIT EGYPT. PRIOR TO SADAT'S VISIT IT WOULD NOT EVEN HAVE OCCURRED TO THEM THAT SUCH A VISIT COULD BE PRODUCTIVE. RABBI BLOOM SOUGHT MOUSSA'S ASSESSMENT OF STATUS OF PEACE PROCESS.

3. MOUSSA SAID HISTORY OF ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT WAS ONE OF MISSED OPPORTUNITIES, MOST FREQUENTLY ON PART OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 09734 311229Z

ARABS. HE CITED THE THREE KHARTOUM NOES THAT EMERGED FROM THE DEFEAT AND HUMILIATION OF THE 1967 WAR. WHAT HE FOUND DISTURBING WAS THAT DURING THIS PERIOD OF GREAT EXPECTATIONS FOR PEACE, PM BEGIN HAD ADOPTED A POLICY OF "SEVEN NOES": THERE IS NO PALESTINIAN PROBLEM, THERE ARE NO PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, PALESTINIANS HAVE NO LEGITIMATE RIGHTS, NO TO A PALESTINIAN STATE, NO TO APPLICATION

OF 242 TO WEST BANK, NO TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND NO CHANGE IN SETTLEMENTS POLICY. HE AGREED WITH RABBI BLOOM THAT IT WILL TAKE TIME FOR ISRAELI OPINION TO CHANGE IN VIEW OF FACT THAT PRIOR TO SADAT VISIT THEY DID NOT BELIEVE REAL PEACE WAS REALISTIC OPTION. HOWEVER, HE FOUND BEGIN'S SEVEN NOES PAR-

TICULARLY DISCOURAGING AND PERSONALLY BELIEVED NO PROGRESS COULD BE MADE WITH BEGIN GOVERNMENT AND "VICIOUS CIRCLE OF LOST OPPORTUNITIES" WILL CONTINUE, THIS TIME BY ISRAEL.

4. OTHER MAJOR POINTS MOUSSA MADE WERE THAT BEGIN'S SELF-RULE PLAN FOR WEST BANK WAS MEANINGLESS AS LONG AS 242 DOES NOT APPLY TO WEST BANK IN BEGIN VIEW. HE ALSO STATED EMPHATICALLY, WHILE EGYPT CAN NEGOTIATE OVER HOW THE PALESTINIANS EXERCISE THEIR RIGHTS AND HOW TO PROTECT ISRAELI SECURITY WHICH SADAT HAS RECOGNIZED FROM BEGINNING, EGYPT CANNOT NEGOTIATE OVER THE EXISTENCE OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS NOR SOVEREIGNTY OVER ITS TERRITORY.

5. RABBI BLOOM WAS MOST APPRECIATIVE OF OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH MOUSSA AND REMARKED TO POLCOUNS LATER THAT STATEMENT WHICH STRUCK HIM AS MOST SIGNIFICANT WAS DANGER THAT ISRAEL WOULD NOW MISS OPPORTUNITY FOR PEACE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 CAIRO 09734 311229Z

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